Confiscated gold and silver are deposited in the Government of India Mints. Diamonds and Precious stones are sold by auction or tender.

(c) The measures taken by the Department towards maintenance of all confiscated goods in re-disposable condition include the following:—

(i) Perishable and consumable goods are sold immediately after seizure;

(ii) Other goods are transferred to the Customs godowns to prevent deterioration/damage and to protect them against pilferage/theft;

(iii) The goods lying in the Customs godowns are periodically inspected and physically checked to ensure that they are kept in good condition;

(iv) Periodical pest control measures are taken to prevent damage to the goods due to rodents and termites;

(v) Fire extinguishers are provided in the godowns to prevent damage by fire.

Seizure of narcotics

1198. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of late the use of narcotic drugs in India has increased;

(b) what are the details of narcotics seized during the last three years, yearwise; and

(c) whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain as to whether most of the narcotics coming from Pakistan are being consumed in India or India is only being used as golden channel for international markets?

THE FINANCE MINISTER (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c) India has been facing the problem of transit traffic in drugs, especially of heroine and hashish originating from the Near and Middle East Region (including Pakistan) and destined for consuming countries. There is some spillover from such traffic which is consumed within the country but can not be precisely quantified.

The details of major narcotic drugs seized during the last three years, years-wise are as follows:

(Quantities rounded to nearest Kg.)

	1987	1988	1989 (Prov.)
Opium	2929	3304	4355
Morphine	115	23	10 +83277 Amps.
Heroin	2747	3029	2714
Ganja	53920	45994	54463
Hashish	14796	17523	8179

Investigations into seizure of drugs from Pakistan indicate that the drugs seized in the majority of the cases were in transit through India to the international market. Successive reports of INTERPOL and of the International Narcotics Control Board also confirm the fact that India is being used as a transit country for illicit drug traffic.

Export subsidy

1199. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export subsidy is provided against exports made from India in commercial transactions;

(b) if so, what are the basis norms that are followed in disbursing subsidy by Government;

(c) what other financial assistance is admissible to individuals and firms against export transactions; and

(d) how the export subsidy is linked with import of goods, if both are done by the same firm?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (d) No export subsidy is provided against exports made from India in commercial transactions. However, certain export promotion measures are being implemented in order to make our exports competitive in the international market by compensating the Indian exporters for various disadvantages which are inherent in our present stage of economic development. The Cash Compensatory Support Scheme is the most important export promotion measures and under this scheme CCS is allowed on a selective basis and is granted primarily with the object of compensating the Indian exporters for the elements of unrefunded indirect taxes on inputs used in export production. No other Government subsidy is provided for any export transactions.

Linking of the Himalayan and Peninsular rivers

1200. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1042 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd March, 1989 and state:

(a) whether the National Water Development Agency has by now completed the necessary feasibility studies for establishing peninsular rivers development component of the national perspectives; and

(b) if so, whether any decision is being taken to operationalise the linkages of Himalayan and Peninsular rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) The National Water Development Agency has prepared preliminary feasibility reports on five of the seventeen water transfer links for Peninsular River Development component of the National Perspective. The detailed field investigation for these links will be taken up after the concerned State Governments convey their consent to these reports. The Himalayan Rivers Development component has not been taken up for studies.

ग्रामीण न्यायालय

1201. **श्री अजीत जोगी :** क्या **विधि और न्याय** मंत्री 22 नवंबर, 1988 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 1517 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) ग्रामीण न्यायालयों की स्थापना के संबंध में वर्तमान सरकार का क्या रवैया है ; और

(ख) ऐसे न्यायालय कब तक स्थापित कर दिये जाने की संभावना है ?